

MAYOR ANNOUNCES Latest Round of SMALL & SIMPLE AWARDS

Mayor Greg Nickels announced new funding awards for 24 different neighborhood projects through the Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund. Several times a year, Small and Simple Project Fund Awards are given to groups committed to building a better community by matching public funds with locally raised money, donated materials, and volunteer labor.

"Small and simple is a great misnomer for these awards. They represent a very large commitment from community members in how they match the city funds, starting even before the funds are awarded. We are so fortunate to be able to contribute to the wonderful work these community groups from all over Seattle do to enhance their neighborhoods," said Mayor Nickels.

The 24 awards, totaling \$201,388, range from \$1,610 to \$15,000. In addition to the city of Seattle's contribution to the projects, the communities will "match" the city's dollars with local resources valued at \$211,922.

"I'm especially proud of the pedestrian and transportation safety related efforts we have been helping with these past months. We will have real progress to show in these communities. They've taken great initiative for projects that will improve their lives," said Yvonne Sanchez, director of Neighborhoods.

The Small and Simple Projects Fund is one of four components of the Neighborhood Matching Fund, and provides awards of \$15,000 and under to support community driven projects that take up to six months to complete. Seattle neighborhoods have completed more than 2,500 projects in the last 15 years, using as little as \$100 and as much as \$100,000 from the Neighborhood Matching Fund.

October 2005 Small and Simple Awards

Meany Science Wall – Meany Magnet Middle School PTSA

Description: Students and community members will collaborate and work together to create and install a mosaic tile mural at the front entrance to welcome students, parents, and community members to the school and gym.

Planning for the Bryant Elementary School Play-field Rehabilitation – Bryant Elementary PTSA

Description: The Bryant Elementary School Playfield is used year-round by area residents and students and



Small and Simple Awards continued on page 2.

needs improvement. The Bryant Elementary PTSA will hire a landscape architect and involve community members in the creation of an improvement plan.

Madrona Elementary Tree Planting – Madrona Elementary PTSA

Description: This Madrona group will plant four native evergreen trees, add compost and mulch, and install a simple irrigation line in the existing planting strip at the northwest corner of Madrona Elementary School.

Dahl Playfield Skatespot – Borders 4 Parks

Description: A team of professionals will be hired to design an approximately 3,600 sq-ft skatespot at Dahl Playfield. Community meetings will be held with the designers to create a collaborative design for the skatespot.



Master Plan & Schematic Design for Madison Park Community Playfield – Friends of Madison Park Community Playfield

Description: Madison Park's play structures are deteriorating and unsafe, and the park needs to be redesigned to become a more inclusive community gathering place. The Friends of Madison Park will create a master plan, design, and schematic drawings for the Madison Park play area.

17th Ave NW & 63rd St NW Pocket Park – Friends of 17th & 63rd Pocket Park

Description: A landscape architect will be hired to assist the local community in creating a design for a pocket park to be constructed with Pro Parks Levy funding.



Super Sones salsa band provided musical entertainment.

First Avenue Median Strip Renovation – Pioneer Square Community Association

Description: Improving a historically significant streetscape environment at the heart of Pioneer Square will involve local businesses and residents. The First Avenue median strip will be renovated with new paving treatment, tree lighting and landscape improvements.

Georgetown Riverview Restoration Project – Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition

Description: A diverse group of neighborhood interests will be brought to bear in planning for pedestrian/bike paths, street trees, and native plants along 8th Ave S, from E Marginal to Gateway Park. Two work parties for trash, graffiti and invasive plant removal along 8th Ave South at Gateway Park will move this project from plans to action.

Grow South Hudson! – Grow South Hudson Neighbors

Description: Neighbors will help to construct tree wells to complement the eleven Trident Maple Trees provided by the Neighborhood Tree Fund.

St. James Community Garden Enhancement – White Center Food Bank

Description: By trimming overgrown bushes and adding lighting, the neighbors will make the St James community garden a safer area, creating an open and visible community gathering space.

Culture to Culture Arts Intervention for Youth and Community Development – Culture to Culture Community Connections

Description: The community will plan and produce Just imagine a free West African Day of Live Music, a family oriented multi-cultural event featuring the ener-



gizing body moving sounds of the djembe drummers, sounds of the kora and rap. The community will make it a reality and produce just such a day!

Technology Education and Information Exchange – Technology Access Foundation

Description: With community support, children will have the opportunity to get a head start using technology to build basic skills in reading, math, writing, problem solving, critical thinking, and communication skills.

Come out of your Shell: A Story-telling/Theatre Workshop for Homeless Teens – Turtle Theatre Collective

Description: Homeless teens will create a series of six, three-hour storytelling/theatre workshops and a final public performance for other homeless teens. This production will give them a sense of self-awareness and confidence, ultimately contributing to their ability to get off the streets and become active and productive members of our community.

Holiday Magic from Top to Bottom – Queen Anne Chamber of Commerce

Description: By sponsoring holiday activities, two neighborhood councils and two neighborhood business organizations will create stronger connections between the Uptown and Queen Anne Neighborhoods.

The Living Barge – South Park Arts Council

Description: Will plant a floating barge with the native plants of the Duwamish River area, How to create a temporary public art piece combining neighborhood art events and landscape restoration? Build a Floating Barge planted with native species of the Duwamish River area! While on display in April 2006, the Living Barge will bring visibility to the area, serve as an

anchor for other events, and create conversations about Duwamish history and future.

Roosevelt Neighborhood Plan “Re-visioning” – Roosevelt Neighborhood Association

Description: Community members, design professionals and University of Washington Planning faculty and students will collaborate to update elements of Roosevelt’s Neighborhood Plan.

People’s Learning Center Community Adult Literacy Summit – People’s Learning Center

Description: This project is to provide outreach to the community on the need and learning opportunities for adult literacy and to increase enrollment and partnerships at the People’s Learning Center.

Chinatown-International District Bio-Diesel Feasibility Study – Chinatown International District BIA

Description: They are going to conduct a study to find out the feasibility of processing cooking oil discarded by Chinatown-International District area restaurants into bio-diesel fuel.

The 14th Avenue NW Visioning Project – East Ballard Community Association

Description: Following an energizing series of meetings and forums, the community is determined to focus on issues of safety, beauty and value that are common to the entire community of businesses, residents and institutions located in this area. To do so, they will create an action plan for 14th NW, between the ship canal and Ballard High School,

Prospect St and 4th Ave N Traffic Circle – Neighbors for Safety

Description: A traffic circle will be constructed at the intersection of Prospect St and 4th Ave N to enhance the safety and well-being of those who live in the neighborhood as well as for those who pass through. The community has benefited in becoming much better acquainted during potlucks as they developed project ideas.

2nd Ave NE and NE 91st St Traffic Circle – 2nd Ave NE and NE 91st Street Traffic Circle Committee

Description: To slow speeding traffic that is rerouting from a signalized intersection at 5th Ave NE and NE 92nd St, a traffic circle will be installed, benefitting both pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

Small and Simple Awards continued on page 4.

BALLARD PRESENTED EVIDENCE OF ITS SUCCESS

A report prepared by the Ballard District Coordinator provides a picture of major development activity in the Ballard district. Eleven private developments currently under construction or in the permit review process were considered. Only those projects over 25 units or over 5,000 SF of commercial space were examined. Together, these 11 developments, when complete, will add nearly 1,200 units of housing, 275,000 SF of new commercial space, and off-street parking for over 2,200 vehicles. All projects are located within a half-mile radius, in and near the Ballard central business district. In addition to these developments, seven other properties likely to see redevelopment in the near future were discussed including two Seattle Public Library surplus properties sold to private developers.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

At its December meeting the Ballard District Council met with the City's Director of Emergency Preparedness, Barbara Graff, to discuss the development of a community level plan for emergency conditions and will determine a position regarding Seattle Monorail properties in Ballard, which can be communicated to SMP and to city government.

CENTRAL

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL WOES

The Central Area Senior Center's Board President has described the Center's financial status as dismal. The operational hours have been shaved down and staff has been reduced. Fund raising efforts have fallen below expectations and the Center simply needs to generate additional funds to remain operational. Senior Center Board members are much appreciative of Seattle City Councilmen Richard McIver, Tom Rasmussen, David Della, and King County Councilman Larry Gossett for their attention and support.

The KRIZZ radio station has received a few calls criticizing the treatment of seniors in the Bridge Club. The Executive Board plans to reach out to the Bridge Club to determine the nature of their concerns and to put the concerns to rest.

Small and Simple Awards continued from page 3.

Traffic Circle at Sunnyside Ave N and N 43rd St – Friends of Sunnyside Ave N and N 43rd St

Description: To calm traffic and improve neighborhood safety, a traffic circle will be constructed at Sunnyside Ave. N and N 43rd St.

Traffic Circle for 39th Ave SW and SW Lander St – 39th Avenue & SW Lander Neighborhood Committee

Description: This project would build a traffic circle at the corner of 39th Ave SW and SW Lander to calm traffic and improve neighborhood safety.

Traffic Calming/Pedestrian Safety Improvement – Squire Park Community Council

Description: The Squire Park CC will outreach to Squire Park residents and stakeholders to identify residential neighborhood traffic and pedestrian safety priorities. A traffic consultant will assist the group in developing a neighborhood-level plan to: reduce automobile volume and speed, encourage bicycle and pedestrian use and safety, improve neighborhood's residential character, mitigate impacts of Swedish-Providence Hospital expansion. 🌐

Happenings, continued on following page...

Neighbor Appreciation Day COMING SOON!

Mayor Nickels has announced that Saturday, February 11th, 2006 will be the 12th annual Neighbor Appreciation Day. This is a great way to acknowledge the good work of your immediate neighbors and others in your community who help make your neighborhood a special place to live.

Neighbor Appreciation Day is a grassroots celebration. People and organizations throughout Seattle have organized block parties, open houses, award ceremonies, potluck dinners, and work parties to recognize and encourage caring neighbors.

If you plan a special observance, call Peter McGraw at the Department of Neighborhoods, at [615-0950](tel:615-0950). He will include your event in a special calendar for public officials, the media, and good neighbors throughout Seattle.

Cards of student art depicting neighbors helping neighbors will be available at all Neighborhood Service Centers and Seattle Public Libraries.

HAPPENINGS in your neighborhood

GROCERY OUTLET GOOD NEIGHBOR

Steve and Debbie Mullen, owners of the Grocery Outlet on the SE corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way and E Union, have made a positive splash in the neighborhood. As part of the Grand Opening, the owners sponsored a fundraiser for Madrona K-8, gave residents 100 George Foreman Grills, played a wheel of fortune game providing free store prizes to patrons and raffled off a Ford Focus.

The store features wide aisles, bright paint, name brand items at bargain prices, and shelf items that reflect the diverse neighborhood.

FRIENDS OF THE RAVINE IN MADRONA (FORM)

Ms. Linda Hanson reports that the partnership with Earth Corps and FORM has completed seven volunteer work parties and has contributed hundreds of hours to the revitalization of the ravine. FORM will be celebrating its accomplishments by installing a plaque to honor the volunteers and the Department of Neighborhoods for the Neighborhood Matching Fund.

HOUSING EXPLORATORY

The Lutheran Alliance to Create Housing (LATCH) is a non-profit organization seeking to build an affordable housing project in the area south of Seattle University and north of Yesler Terrace. LATCH's vision is to develop housing that would serve working families and individuals not always able to pay the market rents on apartments.

The Neighborhood District Coordinator has provided contact names and numbers of the 12th Avenue Planning Committee, the Squire Park Community Council, and Yesler Terrace Community Council for communications purposes.

12TH AVENUE UPDATES

12th Avenue was pleased with the Home Sight Program (a non-profit housing agency) plan to develop 19 units of condos at 13th Ave and E Columbia St.

The 12th Avenue Planning Committee is planning to craft a letter to the Mayor's Office requesting an update of the City-owned properties on the NE corner of 12th and Jefferson and the SE corner of 12th Ave and E James Court.

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPENINGS

in your neighborhood

Seattle University reports that there is a delay in its project to develop a bookstore, retail and housing units for undergraduates. However, there are plans to initiate construction on Seattle University's new 406-seat theatre at 12th Ave and E Marion St. The Empty Space Theatre will be a resident company on campus and is planning a summer repertory for 2006.

12TH & JACKSON (LITTLE SAIGON)

As a result of the meeting with Vietnamese businesses, the Operations Commander, and the City Attorney assigned to East Precinct, Lieutenant Hayes, reports arrests have been made. Lt. Hayes was instrumental in having Patrol stagger and shift the times that the area is patrolled. Assistant City Attorney, Mr. Okada, is communicating with businesses and property owners to urge participation in the loitering law.

DELRIIDGE

MORE INFORMATION ON ANNEXATION

The future governance of unincorporated North Highline, which includes the Boulevard Park, Top Hat (Beverly Park), and White Center communities, continues to be a hot issue in the area just south of the Delridge District. Three separate meetings were held by three different organizations regarding the topic of incorporation or annexation. The White Center Community Development Association sponsored a community meeting to learn about economic development programs offered by the City of Burien and the City of Seattle. King County staff gave a presentation held at Mt. View Elementary School to address questions about the process of annexation. Earlier this month the North Highline Unincorporated Area Council issued a preliminary recommendation to support annexation into the City of Burien. They then held a community meeting a couple of weeks later at Evergreen High School to hear how the general public felt about their governance recommendation. With over 100 in attendance, the testimony favored the NHUAC's recommendation, however most preferred staying unincorporated. A person representing 40 businesses in White Center said they didn't want to pay a business and occupation tax. Those who favored Seattle felt the larger city would provide better social services, public utilities services (water, sewer etc.), and other resources immediately. Two Seattle supporters said the

Happenings, continued on following page...

P-PATCH AND Neighborhoods staff VISIT PORTLAND

P-Patch and Community Building Staff traveled to our fellow Northwest city to investigate Portland's experience with community based projects. The community gardens looked remarkably like their Seattle counterparts, but staff were struck that while Portland has no P-Patches on street rights of way and Seattle has many, Portland has a number of gardens on school property, while Seattle has none.

Zenger farm, remarkably similar looking to Seattle's Marra Farm, is a full fledged farm in a relatively low income area. The site, which incorporated as its own not-for-profit, has grown in part by affiliating with local projects that enhanced its value to the neighborhood. One, a food assessment of the surrounding neighborhood, helped community members realize the value of a local farm. Zenger also seamlessly incorporates wonderful curriculum-based youth programming into the fabric of the farm.



City Repair, a program to create public spaces, showed staff a host of wonderful benches, interactive street intersections and other public spaces that the organization has helped neighborhoods build. Finally, staff finished with a dry policy session on Portland's experience with developing a food policy council and its work assessing and enhancing the Portland food system.

Staff were very excited about one report, appropriately titled the "Diggable City," that inventoried land that could be used for farming. The report recognizes that urban agriculture can serve a variety needs, not the least of which is providing the freshest produce while reducing the ecological footprint of the food system. 🌍

HAPPENINGS

in your neighborhood

NHUAC should have waited until the City completed its governance study in January before making their recommendation. And there is yet another organization, the Trusted Advocates of the Annie E. Casey Making Connections Program, that have organized the Community Summit on Annexation on December 3 to give attendees, particularly ethnic minority residents, the opportunity to have a deeper conversation around this challenging issue.

GATHERING OF NEIGHBORS BRINGS TOGETHER WEST SEATTLE

The 2nd Annual Gathering of Neighbors Celebration and Community Expo Event was successfully held this month at West Seattle High School. The event, sponsored by Megawatt with support from Nucor Steel, Flexicar, Seattle Foundation, and the Department of Neighborhoods West Seattle District Coordinators, attracted over 450 people and 80 organizations. People were entertained by a wide variety of performances that featured break dancers, Vietnamese folk dancers, martial arts demonstrations, and a community musical band. Several West Seattle and White Center restaurants provided free food for the event. Mark Lakeman, from the City Repair Project in Portland, Oregon, shared his story of how citizens can impact social, ecological, and urban restoration in their neighborhoods. Next year the event will be held at Chief Sealth High School.

DOWNTOWN

DOWNTOWN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE

The Downtown Parks and Open Space Task Force met recently. Christopher Williams, Parks and Recreation Operations Division Director, presented a plan for security and safety in downtown parks. The idea being examined is to hire Park Rangers who would staff the downtown parks 24 hours/day enforcing policies and intervening when illegal activity and nuisance behaviors occur. Funding, job descriptions, and logistical details need to be further looked into for this proposal. In addition, an outreach plan is being put in place for January 2006 to inform the public about the work of the task force and take public comments. The committee will reconvene in March of '06 to complete a report to the Board of Park Commissioners.

Happenings, continued on following page...

DOWNTOWN EMERGENCY SERVICE CENTER

The opening of the Downtown Emergency Service Center at 1811 Eastlake is expected in December. The facility will house 75 residents and 15 staff with the goal of clinically stabilizing those who are addicted to alcohol. The program has received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for evaluation of the facility to track its effectiveness in suppression of alcohol abuse. Many local service providers and businesses support this project, while others in the community are concerned how it will impact the surrounding area.

EAST

SETTING AN ANCHOR FOR PRIDE ON THE HILLS

The communities on the Hills are preparing to accept the impending decision to move the annual Pride Parade away from Broadway and Volunteer Park into the main Downtown and Seattle Center venues.

However, the decision has created controversy and anxiety among the business and residential communities. Petition drives to retain the event were submitted to the Board of the Pride organization and a series of talks regarding the significance and importance of the event have concluded that there is a need to continue celebrating tolerance, human rights, and progressive policies in these neighborhoods.

Among the participants are the Broadway BIA, the Seattle Greater Business Association, Entre Hermanos, and Apartments El Rey, as well as Emma Moreno, senior project manager with the Neighborhood Matching Fund program.

FREEWAY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP UPDATE

The Freeway Park Neighborhood Group is an organization that represents residents, institutions, and businesses in the neighborhood that surrounds Freeway Park between downtown and First Hill neighborhoods.

Most of the work done by this organization is in response to public safety issues at Freeway Park. The group has tried to schedule cultural and civic activities that allow greater utilization of the park by all its neighbors. Throughout the years, this organization has mobilized and collected funding for ongoing park improvements

Happenings, continued on following page...

CITIZENS BUDGET Conference 2006

Find out why the City's budget matters and how to make it work for your neighborhood!

Saturday January 28th, Seattle Center House

Get in at the beginning as the City kicks off its two-year budget process! This conference begins with the Mayors announcement of new steps toward public involvement, and ends with a panel of City Council members discussing with you how to get budget results. In between are panel presentations and staffed tables from dozens of City agencies large and small, including the Police and Fire Departments, Department of Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Transportation, Department of Human Services, Seattle Center, Seattle Public Library, Department of Neighborhoods, and many others.

Session One (10am to 10:55am):

1. Health, Human Services, and Housing Programs
2. Public Safety and Emergency
3. Management
4. Seattle Department of Transportation: Roads, Traffic Signals, Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements
5. Parks, Community Centers, and Seattle Center

Session Two (11am to 11:55am)

1. Library and Neighborhood Programs
2. Public Safety and Emergency
3. Management
4. Seattle Department of Transportation
5. Parks, Community Centers, and Seattle Center

8:30 - Refreshments

9:00 - Welcome by Mayor Nickels and Council member McIver

9:20 - Finance Director Dwight Dively outlines the new budget process

10:00 - Session One (agency presentations, questions, and answers)

11:00 - Session Two (agency presentations, questions, and answers)

12:00 - Lunch break (choose from Center House's many food booths)

12:30 - Budget fair (meet with officials one-on-one at agency tables)

2:00 - Dialogue with City Council panel about how to make the budget work for you

3:00 - Adjourn

and presently is working closely with the Parks and Recreation Department to plan the park improvements overview for the 2006 period.

At its November meeting, the Freeway Park Group elected David Brewster, from Town Hall Organization, as its new president.

YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO SELECT VOLUNTEER RESIDENTS FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Responding to a request from the Seattle Housing Authority, the Yesler Terrace Community Council will be selecting representatives among its residential community for the creation of a Yesler Terrace Advisory Committee. This committee will be advising Seattle Housing Authority on its anticipated and controversial future mixed-use development for Yesler Terrace.

The projected mixed-use development will fuse low-income partially subsidized housing with market-rate units in the same neighborhood. The controversy is the result of the ambiguity felt by the residential community and its ability to acquire low-income housing in the city of Seattle. The Seattle Housing Authority/Yesler Terrace Advisory Committee will be holding meetings in the first quarter of 2006.

GREATER DUWAMISH

BEACON ALLIANCE OF NEIGHBORS

At a recent Beacon Alliance of Neighbors (BAN) meeting, community members expressed concerns regarding public safety issues on 15th Ave S, and in Lewis Park, across from Amazon. Other members mentioned that along the greenbelts adjacent to the public stairways between 16th Ave S and 17th Ave S, they have also seen signs of illegal activity. As a follow-up, SPD's CPT officers scheduled a tour of the areas with some of the community members. The Precinct Lieutenant will also look into reconvening the City's Interdepartmental team to address these issues, as in the case of the Jungle.

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPENINGS

LAKE UNION

your neighborhood

MAINTENANCE OF THE MERCER INTERCHANGE PROJECT AREA

SLUFAN was awarded two Neighborhood Matching Fund awards from the Department of Neighborhoods to beautify the Mercer Interchange site. The beautification project was to enhance the entry/exit experience for well over 100,000 people each day. In 2001, DON awarded the organization a Small and Simple Projects Fund award for \$10,000 to prepare the site and a Large Projects Fund award for \$85,000 to install landscaping the following year.

Recently, the manager of the apartment complex adjacent to the property contacted WSDOT, the property owner, to complain about maintenance issues. WSDOT believed SLUFAN should maintain the site since they adopted the site. In WSDOT's opinion, if the organization was no longer willing to maintain the site, then WSDOT would take over the responsibility that may have included eliminating much of the landscaping.

SLUFAN believed it was WSDOT's responsibility since the property belongs to WSDOT and in the NMF Large Project Fund Agreement it clearly stated "the property will be maintained by its owner, WSDOT"

OPM and DON staff reviewed the DON file and discovered that on SLUFAN's application for the Large Fund Project, it stated the organization agreed to maintain the site.

At the SLUFAN Planning Committee meeting, OPM and DON staff briefed SLUFAN members of the finding. SLUFAN accepted responsibility for the maintenance. SLUFAN will invite WSDOT's Adopt a Street coordinator to a future meeting to talk about the responsibilities of an Adopt-a-Street sponsor. Also, SLUFAN will work with the apartment complex manager to resolve outstanding maintenance issues.

DENNY PARK PLAY SPACE

Kate Mortenson, a representative from the South Lake Union Area School Coalition, presented the Denny Park Play Space proposal to the SLUFAN Community Council. The organization is seeking support from the SLUFAN Community Council on the project and requesting that the SLUFAN Community Council submit a letter of support by November 2, prior to the budget committee meeting.

The group feels that there is an immediate neighborhood need for a safe, accessible, and age appropriate play space in Denny Park. With increases in development to occur in the area, the need for

Happenings, continued on following page...

Historic Preservation

"Building of the Month"

Heather McAuliffe

December 2005

Ballard Avenue Landmark District building finds new life as a restaurant.

Over the past 80 years, the historic Mako Building at 5449 Ballard Avenue NW has been used as a department store, office supplies store, and more recently, the Ballard Family Center.



When the Family Center lost its funding in 2003, Steve Mako, son of building owners Zoltan and Jadwiga Mako, decided to renovate and upgrade the building and convert it to a restaurant/bar. In 2004, the Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board approved changes to the building's facade that accommodated the new use but were

HAPPENINGS

in your neighborhood

sympathetic to the building's historic character. The changes included a seismic retrofit and alterations to the building's entry, storefront and second story windows. Late this fall, the slick new BalMar restaurant opened.

The building's earthy industrial character blends with contemporary furnishings and finishes to provide a perfect backdrop for this new neighborhood gathering place. Most of the building owner's costs for rehabilitation of the building were eligible for a local special tax valuation program available to owners of designated landmark properties/buildings in historic district resulting in substantial property tax relief for the next ten years.

More information on the Ballard Avenue Landmark District is available from the Historic Preservation Program or at <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/preservation/ballardavenue.htm>.



a play space for the community is apparent. The group wants the play area in place within one year.

The group is requesting funding from the City Council for \$70,000. The full project preliminary estimate is \$120,000. The group is seeking the remainder of the money (\$50,000) from other funding sources such as Starbucks, Vulcan, and Neighborhood Matching Funds.

SLUFAN Community Council is in support of the project and sent a letter of support. In the 2006 budget, the City Council approved \$100,000 for the Denny Park Children's play area.

MAGNOLIA/QUEEN ANNE

QUEEN ANNE HAS EYE ON THE "DEAD ZONE"

The triangle bounded by Denny Way, Broad St and Aurora Ave is called the "dead zone" by some because it is a relatively underutilized area of motels and parking lots surrounded by busy arterials. The area is not currently included in any neighborhood plan, but that could change. Queen Anne activists have recently suggested the land be incorporated into the Queen Anne Neighborhood Planning Area. The area could also be annexed to the South Lake Union or the Denny Regrade/Belltown Planning areas. Department of Neighborhoods staff in Queen Anne recently met with neighborhood representatives and staff from the Department of Planning and Development. A consensus building meeting is planned that will involve representatives from the adjacent neighborhoods. At this point, there doesn't appear to be a strong territorial competition for the area. There seems to be agreement, however, that the area would benefit from some coordinated planning efforts.

GRAND VISION FOR QUEEN ANNE AVENUE

Representatives of ZGF Architects presented a visionary plan for a renovated streetscape on Queen Anne Avenue at the top of the hill. The draft plan was based on studies of other vibrant urban business districts and on community ideas from an earlier public meeting. The plan envisions curb bulbs, pedestrian lighting, benches, hanging flower baskets, bike racks, fancy trashcans, specially paved crosswalks, and public art. The design work is funded by a Small and Simple award. More than 100 people turned out at the November 17 meeting to give their feedback. Most were

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPENINGS

in your neighborhood

excited about the possibilities. Organizers plan to apply for funding to implement the plan, including applying to the Neighborhood Matching Fund Large Project Fund.

UPTOWN PARK RECEIVES \$225,000 GIFT

The Uptown Alliance announced this week that it had received a signed commitment for a \$225,000 contribution for the new Uptown Park at Queen Anne Ave and Roy St. The donor is Raj Shah of Shah Safari, located at 14 Roy St. World headquarter office for Shah Safari, a clothing business, has been just west of the park for 30 years. Shah and his family live on Queen Anne. The estimated cost of park design and development is \$750,000. The Pro Parks Levy will provide \$300,000, and the remaining \$225,000 will be raised by the community. The Uptown Alliance is partnering with the Seattle Parks Foundation in the fundraising effort. Murase Associates is designing the urban plaza at the foot of the Counterbalance. The third of three public meetings on the park design will be held later this month.

NORTHEAST

FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS EXPANDS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Friends of U Heights group has been meeting every other week since the first part of May of this year. They have met with developers; some presented plans for possible site development; some talked about how future development might be structured. They met with low income housing developers and they met with community development corporations. All along the group has included residents, the Chamber, community council representatives, Board members from U Heights, and staff from the Parks Department and the Department of Neighborhoods. A couple of weeks ago, the group met with Brita Butler-Wall, president of the Seattle School Board, and just last week, a subset of the "Friends" met with a local land conservancy group. One of the keys to this work hinges on the two million dollars in open space acquisition monies dedicated to the University District through the Parks Open Space Bond Levy (one million of that money comes from the King County Conservation Futures Fund).

Happenings, continued on following page...

Letter of Intent to Apply to the Department of Neighborhoods' LARGE PROJECT FUND

(for requests greater than \$15,000
- up to \$100,000)

The Large Project Fund: is for projects which take up to 12 months to complete and need more than \$15,000 - up to \$100,000. The Neighborhood Matching Fund provides money to Seattle neighborhood groups and organizations for a broad array of neighborhood-initiated improvement, organizing or planning projects. A neighborhood group may be established just to undertake a project—the group does not need to be "incorporated."

Once a project is approved, the community's contribution of volunteer labor, materials, professional services, or cash will be "matched" by cash from the Neighborhood Matching Fund. There are four different funds within the Neighborhood Matching Fund, each with its own funding parameters and application methods.

Funds are limited, so it's a competitive program. In order to apply, you are required to attend a Matching Fund workshop or make an appointment with a Matching Fund Project Manager. Applications are considered during specific funding cycles and the highest rated applications are awarded funds. Please contact us at 206-684-0464, or visit us on the web at www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf to make an appointment.

- \$15,000 - \$100,000
- Letter of Intent accepted
February 6, 2006
- Applications accepted April 3, 2006
- Applications reviewed by Citywide Review Team and District Council volunteers
- Notice of award within three months

The Letter of Intent must be received by 5:00 p.m. on or before Monday, February 6, 2006 at the Department of Neighborhoods, 700 Fifth Ave, Suite 1700, PO Box 94649, Seattle, WA 98124-4649, or your local Neighborhood Service Center.

HAPPENINGS in your neighborhood

At the meeting on November 30, Mary Hausladen, from the Roosevelt Neighbors Alliance, spoke on an alternate use for the Parks Open Space acquisition monies. She is hoping that this money will be used as part of a package to acquire space owned by the University District Parking Associates adjacent to the University Tower Hotel. Further, her hope is that a full-service YMCA could be built there. Generally, there is support for many of the features Mary would like to see developed, but the Friends of University Heights group is strongly committed to pursuing open space acquisition at University Heights. FOUH sees this money as an important part of an initial package to jumpstart any proposed development.

The group is currently seeking funding for a project manager to help guide this process.

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT SERVICE PROVIDERS PLAN HOLIDAY PARTY

For the 5th year in a row, the U District homeless youth service providers "collective" is planning a party for youth on the streets. Previous parties have been so successful the group now has this event down to a science. Teen Feed, the six-nights-a week meal program, provides the dinner; Sanctuary Arts Center creates the decorations; University District Youth Center (Catholic Community Services) sorts and wraps all the gifts; ROOTS, the young adult shelter, oversees the distribution of gifts; and University Street Ministries asks the greater community to participate. Dozens of staff and volunteers help at the event, dining with guests, helping in the "general store", or serving. The young people who come always report that this is a highlight in their lives - the camaraderie, the music, the relaxed and festive atmosphere are a comfort and joy for them (and for the volunteers).

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPENINGS

NORTHWEST

your neighborhood

GAIN GROUP PLANS CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Members of the Greenwood Aurora Involved Neighbors (GAIN) held its first Citizen Patrol on Wednesday, November 9 joined by Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske. Two patrol groups have been formed—one each for north and south of 85th St and regular patrol dates and locations have been established. GAIN has also signed up to be an Adopt-A-Street partner and has scheduled monthly clean-up activities on the first Saturday of each month, beginning December 3 from 12-3 p.m. The group distributes an on-line newsletter reminding neighbors of upcoming activities. This is a highly mobilized group and they are working hard to follow up on all the positive steps they have gained. For more information on GAIN see www.gainseattle.com

ILLEGAL PARKING ADDRESSED ALONG LINDEN AVE N

In response to a number of community complaints, Parking Enforcement Officers have stepped up enforcement efforts regarding illegally parked vehicles along Linden Ave N, primarily between N 143rd and N 145th, including removal of the U-Haul trucks that have been parking there in violation of City ordinance. Neighbors are appreciative of these efforts and are further requesting improved pedestrian access along the stretch of Linden Ave from 130th to 145th.

SALMON RETURN TO CARKEEK PARK

Environmentally-restored Piper's Creek, in the heart of Carkeek Park, is once again home to returning chum salmon, who have come back healthier and even earlier this year than in the past. The annual salmon run has been made possible through the combined efforts of governmental jurisdictions and local citizens. Volunteer Salmon Stewards will be on hand weekends until December 19 to help visitors learn more about this treasured resource.

WEED ISLAND— no more!



In 2000, the Morgan Community Association received CRF funds to install a traffic calming project at 40th Ave SW and Fauntleroy Way SW. The project was installed in 2004. Along with a new concrete sidewalk and barrier extension on the east side of Fauntleroy, an overgrown, weed infested triangle on the west side was regraded and planted with trees and a new low maintenance grass called Ecoturf. While the Parks Department agreed to provide once a year mowing, the expected effort needed to trim back the Ecoturf, within 2 years aggressive weeds overwhelmed the Ecoturf and the triangle quickly turned back into a weed infested planting, although with nice trees. This year, nearby neighbors decided to deal

Happenings, continued on following page...



with "Weed Island" just as aggressively as the plant invaders and have formed several work parties to provide mowing services to keep the weeds in check. Along with the tidy trimmed look has come the return of wildlife; several pink flamingos have been spotted nesting in the pine trees, and a Halloween decorating party may bring back bats. Thanks go to Paul Sureddin who help coordinate the taming of Weed Island, along with neighbors Dave and Linda Gould, Shawn and Susan Terjeson, Kevin and Jaye Bywater, Mona Lang, Janine Rees, Gene Brake, Greg Stripes and others. 🌐

Neighborhood News



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HAPPENINGS

SOUTHEAST

your neighborhood

ARTWORKS YOUTH ART ADVISORY COUNCIL SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

ArtWorks Youth Art Advisory Committee has many great projects in the works and needs your help! Be a part of discussions on creating more systems of support and education for young local artists. Plan events and workshops you'd like to see happening in your community. To date, YAAC has put on a fashions show, arts & crafts bazaar, and started a monthly movie night all highlighting local designers, artists, and filmmakers. Meetings are every other week and last about 1.5 hours. If you are interested, please contact Jenny at 206.292.4142 x104 or jenny@urbanartworks.org

SOUTHWEST

WEST SEATTLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LOOKING FOR BETTER SIGNS

Designating West Seattle as a major destination point is one of the main goals of the West Seattle Chamber of Commerce. Last year, the Chamber distributed maps and posted signs on the Elliott Bay Water Taxi to promote West Seattle as a major tourist attraction and destination point. This year, the Chamber wants to step-up its marketing by enhancing signage on the West Seattle Bridge to point out major attractions such as Alki Beach, Lincoln Park, the Fauntleroy Ferry, the Log House Museum and the West Seattle Farmers Market. The Chamber will be working with the Seattle Department of Transportation to discuss how more detailed signs can be added to or replace existing signs on the West Seattle Bridge and to the Office of Economic Development and Department of Neighborhoods for funding.

ANA PLANNING ITS DEBUT

The Admiral Neighborhood Association (ANA) will be sponsoring a major community meeting in early 2006 to unveil its new role as the community council representing the Admiral neighborhood. In its former role as the Admiral Planning Coalition-the neighborhood-planning implementation stewards, members' felt that the role was too limiting. It was decided that in order to broaden its membership, it was necessary to broaden the role of the organization, and ANA was born. A recruitment piece and membership brochure is in the works and a mass mailing is planned for early 2006.

MY VERSION OF “Live Aid” TO HURRICANE VICTIMS

By Stan Lock, Southwest District Coordinator

During the week of October 17, I spent a week “in the flesh” in Louisiana assisting the victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita as part of a 30-member delegation sent by the Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church in Seattle.

On our first day, we arrived at the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) campus in Baldwin, Louisiana (population 2,500, with one traffic light), located about 2 hours southwest of New Orleans. The centerpiece of the campus is a huge depot that collects, assembles and ships donations of emergency supplies to disaster victims not only in New Orleans, but worldwide.

My first day was spent in the depot assembling emergency kits and school supplies that would be distributed to disaster areas not only in Louisiana and Mississippi, but all over. With a little practice, I mastered the routine of cramming a bar of soap, a hand towel, a toothbrush and toothpaste, into a gallon-size bag in a matter of seconds...pretty monotonous work but somebody's gotta do it!

On day two, I volunteered to serve on a 10-member crew to hang sheet rock at a home in the nearby town of New Iberia-home of the Tabasco factory. As we headed to our destination, we noticed that there were piles of trash, construction materials and appliances scattered along the roadside. Could this be a part of a town-sponsored neighborhood clean up I thought? Well, NO! It turns out that New Iberia is only three miles from the Gulf of Mexico and what we saw was the aftermath of Hurricane Rita where the homes there had 42 inches of flooding!

When we arrived, the owners, John and Wilda, a couple in their 70's, were busy tearing out a severely flood-damaged floor. A gentleman on our crew by the name of Donald, a retiree from Denver, ably assisted here despite the fact that he got around, with some difficulty, with a walking cane. Years earlier, he lost the use of one of his legs after being struck by a car driven by a drunk driver. Over the next two days, he worked tirelessly-prying up a damaged floor while sitting-crow bar in one hand, and supporting himself with the other.



Stan's brother, photo by Stan Lock.

During the course of removing the floor, Donald discovered the deteriorated bodies of the owners' missing cat and her two kittens in the crawl space underneath the house. They apparently sought refuge and drowned there during the flood.

As for the rest of us crew members, we installed wall insulation and hung sheet rock throughout the house. After two days, we were about 80% complete and were asked to move on because help was needed at two other houses in the nearby town of Lydia. We hated to break the news that we had to move on because the owners had not only appreciated the work we'd done, but they became very fond of us and vice versa. However, it was gratifying to know that we were leaving with matters well in hand.

In Lydia, we worked on two homes that also sustained heavy damage from Hurricane Rita. Much to our convenience, they were located across the street from one

Continued on next page.

BELLTOWN STREETSCAPE PLAN for 3rd and 4th Avenues

The Belltown Housing and Land Use Subcommittee (BHLUS) obtained a Small and Simple grant in 2005 to develop a streetscape plan for 3rd and 4th avenues in Belltown. The plan is a part of the ongoing effort to make Belltown a more livable, pedestrian-oriented and active mixed-use neighborhood.

John Owen with Maker's was selected as the lead professional. The plan is the result of a 6-month effort that involved local, volunteer land use professionals, property owners and operators, residents, people that work on the avenues, low income housing providers and providers of human services located on these avenues. In addition, representatives of the Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Department of Transportation, and the Department of Planning and Development participated actively throughout.



The output of the study includes an assessment of the current conditions, specific design recommendations and a 7-step implementation plan. These 7 steps include: (1) Traffic Safety Improvements in the north end of Belltown, (2) Street Tree and Tree Pit replacements and improvements, (3) Street Light Installation and Replacement, (4) Replacing Trash Receptacles and consolidating newspaper racks, (5) encouraging Full Block Development, (6) Planning and Implementing Green Street Improvements, and (7) North Gateway/Clay Street Improvements.

BHLUS will now work with the neighborhood and City Departments to implement this plan during 2006. 🌐

Continued from page 16.

another. The homes were owned by a retired woman by the name of Barbara and a single mother by the name of Julie.

With a full two days experience in hanging sheet rock under our belts, we became much more proficient and efficient and the work went very smoothly and we completed about 90% of the sheet rocking. However, we could not have accomplished as much without the help of an enthusiastic group of Nisei, or second-generation Japanese-Americans. This group, many of whom are enjoying the fruits of their hard work in retirement, demonstrated the same tenacity that has enabled them to carve out a better life for themselves and their children. There is no doubt that we could not have done as much without their help. No wonder they're considered part of this country's "Greatest Generation."

When I first signed-on to help, I had every intention of going to New Orleans, if the opportunity arose, to satis-

fy my curiosity and to witness firsthand the devastation that took place there. Well, I never made it to New Orleans even though I had the opportunity to drive a delivery truck to drop-off emergency supplies. It turns out that there was no short supply of people wanting to drive trucks and since I didn't mind hanging sheet rock, I passed on my chance.

Nonetheless, I did get to experience Louisiana, at least it's cuisine. I can now say that I've had alligator and frog legs. In my opinion, neither "tastes like chicken." I also toured the Tabasco processing plant and drove by more sugarcane plantations than your average candy bar will ever see in its lifetime.

It was an experience I will never forget. It was gratifying to have met and worked alongside people from all walks of life from all over the country. For one week, we talked, laughed and worked together as one big family. 🌐

MAYOR'S Scholars Award Program

UNDERWAY

Mayor's Scholars are middle school students who are "unsung heroes," have overcome obstacles or met challenges in their lives, are in good standing in school, and demonstrate commitment to their community through their activities. Mayor's Scholars are responsible, generous community members who give to society and lead by their examples.

The program, run with assistance from the Alliance for Education and supported by private donations, is open to any student living in and attending middle school in Seattle. Each Mayor's Scholar selected will receive a \$500 award and a Mayor's Scholars jacket. The award is for charitable or educational purposes only.

Two additional scholarships, provided by the Ginger & Barry Ackerley Foundation, will be awarded to Mayor's Scholars based on their response regarding college plans, and one additional scholarship will be awarded to a Native American student. These scholarships are intended for future study at a four-year college or public community or technical college.

Applications are now available through Seattle Public Schools, Neighborhood Service Centers, community centers, & branch libraries, or from the City's Office for Education at (206) 233-5118. You may also download the materials at <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/education>. The application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2006. 🌐



State of Neighborhoods

To help our city government elected officials and city staff re-evaluate and

prioritize issues that directly affect our Seattle neighborhoods, please come

to the first State of the Neighborhoods Summit meeting.

- Speak out.
- Hear what your District Council members have to say.
- Hear reaction from elected officials and staff.
- Interact with City staff, Councilmembers, folks from many neighborhoods

Keynote Speakers

Mayor Greg Nickels – Councilmember David Della

LET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES BE HEARD!

Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, January 18

6pm - 9pm

City Hall

5th Ave. at Cherry St.

First Floor

Sponsored by the City Neighborhood Council; the Department of Neighborhoods; and the Parks, Neighborhoods, and Education Committee of the Seattle City Council

A GULF COAST EXPERIENCE: Building Solidarity and the Right to Return and Rebuild!

by Garry Owens
Neighborhood Matching Fund Project Manager

I joined a diverse intergenerational group of organizers and activists in Jackson, Mississippi on November 2nd for a historic event. We were invited to join a delegation of 35 organizations from across the country and Africa for the Gulf Coast Justice & Solidarity Tour. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to witness the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and her wide path of destruction, both physically and morally in New Orleans, Gulfport and the United Houma Indian Nation Reservation. Most importantly we came to build community to community relationships, provide material aid and collectively support Gulf South grassroots community -led process for return, reconnection and reconstruction. Our delegation was composed of forty individuals representing communities of color, advocates for immigrant rights, environmental justice, social justice funding, independent media, organized labor, faith-based organizations and local representatives from the stricken areas.

For five days we listened to painful stories of how and why ordinary, good people stayed or were left behind. They linked the current situation to their legacy of racial injustice and economic oppression and its direct relationship to the forces of nature, government indifference and the powerful greed of those who profit on others misfortune. Our most insightful observations and encounters came on the road alongside flood-ruined homes, neighborhood streets and rural back roads, in religious sanctuaries, on porches and driveways and parking lots.

In New Orleans we saw a city with a 300 year history recoil from the 250 million gallons of water that filled the streets of the 9th Ward from the breached canal levee and created a nightmare: toxins and mold, evictions without tenants; streets without people, schools without students, bird-less and leafless trees and a city plunged into absolute darkness at night. In

Gulfport we witnessed the power of water and wind that made whole vanish with no signs of life and we watched immigrant day laborers pick-up toxic waste on the beach with no special protective equipment. In Houma we heard the United Houma Nation chief tell the proud story of their 9000 year history in the region and the plight that Katrina put on those on the reservation who lived on the banks of the overflowed bayou's. Like butterflies from caterpillars we had the honor to meet the leaders of "self-help" organizations that emerged to do what FEMA, the Red Cross and the government could not do – save the people and give them hope. We ended our tour developing a unified strategy to follow the leadership of our new Gulf Coast friends. Beside ongoing material aid they most wanted to have the displaced residents and play a meaningful role in planning the rebuilding New Orleans; restoring the Gulf Coast marshes; and rebuilding the levees to European standards

The organization I represented on the tour – LELO (A Legacy of Equality, Leadership and Organizing) – a Seattle based 30+ year old workers' and human rights organization that strives to empower workers of color, low-income workers and women is involved with a local effort that needs your support. The Puget Sound Katrina Relief and Reconstruction Committee is the efforts of Seattle Longshore workers and a labor-led and community supporters to help survivors to return and rebuild their lives and homes. The Committee has two major tasks – raise awareness of the survivors struggle and collect and distribute power tools and other rebuilding supplies to the Community Labor United organization in New Orleans. Currently, they have a large warehouse in the Industrial Area donated by the Port of Seattle. All donated items are tax-deductible. For more information call 206-701-4969. 🌐

GET INVOLVED!

As of December 2005, the following boards and commissions have openings:

- Fire Code Advisory Board
- Seattle Center Advisory Commission
- Seattle Design Review Board (Deadline is December 16, 2005)
- Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

Through a variety of boards and commissions, established by the City of Seattle, citizens can provide input on the policies that shape their government and their city. There are currently more than 50 boards and commissions that advise the Mayor and City Council on a vast array of issues. Over 450 of the people who serve are directly appointed by Mayor Nickels.

Board members and commissioners generally receive no financial compensation, but the payoff is great. Members meet other residents with similar interests, they learn about the City, and they help shape the future of Seattle! Being on a board or commission does require a significant personal commitment, however, so applicants should consider their ability to commit their time and personal energy before applying.

As board and commission meetings are open to the public, potential applicants are encouraged to sit in on monthly meetings. Meeting dates, times and locations vary, and are available on individual websites.

If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please submit a letter of interest and resume to Claudia Arana, Boards & Commissions Administrator for Mayor Nickels. Claudia can be reached by phone at [206-615-0958](tel:206-615-0958), or by email at Claudia.Arana@seattle.gov. Applicants should either reside or work in Seattle. Applicants should clearly specify which board or commission interests them.

Claudia Arana
Boards & Commissions Administrator
Mayor Nickels' Office
Ph: 615-0958
Fax: 684-5360
Email: Claudia.Arana@Seattle.gov

For a complete list of boards and commissions, please visit the following website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/boards.htm>



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